



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

May 3, 2004



Taken April 27, 2004, this aerial view looking south over of the CVC project site shows the western half of the CVC concrete roof deck in place and the truck tunnel construction zone in the right foreground. Stone masons will begin laying granite curb stones over the next two weeks near the East Front Center Steps and the original Senate wing. Later in May, once the curbs stones are in place, crews will then begin setting the first of 200,000 8-inch-square granite paving stones. Emergency egress from the Rotunda has been established on the north side of the CVC roof deck.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 5/03/04 through 5/07/04

East Front Plaza Highlights:

- The top concrete roof slab is now in place over the northern half of the CVC roof deck and stone masons will begin to lay out and set granite curb stones later this week. Crews will begin setting 8-inch square paving stones later this month.
- Concrete placements will continue on all three levels of the CVC.
- Crews continue to build mechanical spaces, erect formwork and install utilities throughout the site.
- Emergency egress from the Rotunda has been established on the northern half of the CVC roof deck.

East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

- Crews continue to erect structural steel inside the East Front Extension and continue with demolition activities to clear the way for elevator shafts, escalators, stairwells and new mechanical systems.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- Dump trucks continue to backfill the tunnel zone above the tunnel roof deck.
- In other areas, crews continue to assemble rebar and formwork for the tunnel walls and roof deck. The concrete slab on grade is entirely in place with the exception of 20 feet at the southernmost end of the tunnel.

- Workers will continue to remove the temporary bridge structure on Constitution Avenue that lies over the new truck tunnel just east of New Jersey Avenue NW. Once the bridge is removed, crews will backfill the zone, place asphalt for the road and re-establish sidewalks and curbs. In an effort to avoid impacts to parking, Constitution Avenue has been reduced from four lanes to three for the six-week restoration period.

Scaffolding rises in the center of the CVC site near one of the two Great Hall skylight openings (center of photo). The scaffolding will support formwork for a portion of the lower level floor slab that will lead visitors from the Great Hall into a 600-seat dining facility.



Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- A crew will continue constructing a temporary bridge along the western half of First Street over the excavation zone to allow excavation to occur without disrupting traffic.
- The bulk of excavation near the northwest corner of the LOC building has been completed and crews are now pouring concrete to establish the slab on grade, which lies approximately 20 feet below ground level.

Next Week – 5/10/04 - 5/14/04

East Front Plaza Work

- Stone masons will continue setting granite curb stones on the north side.
- Crews will continue to waterproof portions of the CVC roof slab, conduct waterproofing tests, and place the “topping” slab of concrete throughout the roof deck.
- Crews will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, erect formwork and place concrete floor slabs for all three below-ground levels of the CVC.

East Front Extension

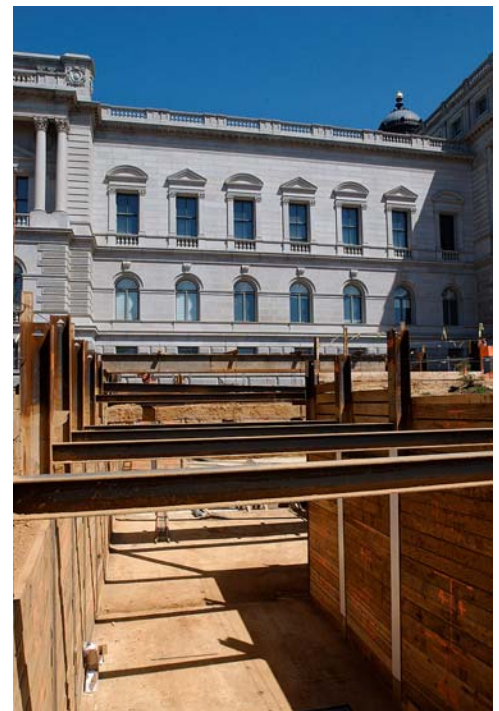
- Steel crews will continue to erect steel within the East Front concrete structure. Demolition of structural elements will continue on all levels within the East Front Extension and in the Carriageway below the East Front Center Steps. Demolition of major structural columns will continue inside the East Front transition zone.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- Crews will continue to erect formwork, place concrete and waterproof the roof deck and walls in all areas of the truck tunnel construction zone. Close to 75 percent of the concrete for the tunnel is in place.
- Work to restore Constitution Avenue will continue for several weeks and is expected to be completed by Memorial Day.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Crews will continue installing a temporary bridge along First Street over the tunnel excavation zone.
- Formwork assembly and concrete placements will continue near the LOC and within the CVC site for the tunnel floor slab and walls.



Steel beams and wood shoring help to frame the easternmost end of the LOC tunnel where excavation has been completed. Meanwhile, work continues on a temporary bridge along First Street SE to allow excavation to occur below traffic.

CVC Construction Photos

(April 26-30, 2004)

*Clockwise from right:
Two workers assemble the rebar cage for a portion of the north wall of the Congressional Auditorium.*

Formwork is lowered over the rebar cage for a concrete column in the northeast quadrant.

Workers apply waterproofing membrane to the top concrete slab in front of the East Front Center Steps.

A steel beam supports the arcade structure of the carriageway below the East Front Center Steps.

Center: Workers assemble reinforcing steel inside the East Front Extension within the main transition zone between the CVC and the Capitol.





Clockwise from left:

Sequence 1 crews assemble formwork and pour concrete for the floor slab of a 600-seat dining facility, which will be located below the entrance of the CVC.

Workers lay steel rebar for the lower level floor slab of the south side Orientation Theater.

A crew places concrete for the easternmost portion of the Great Hall floor slab.

Crews begin assembling the north wall of a pedestrian tunnel to the Library of Congress while a waterproofing membrane hangs from the south wall.

